Contract Services Division Consultant Advisory

Consultant Advisory 2019-5 **April 12, 2019**

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Implementation of the Consultant Mentor-Protégé Program

MDOT is pleased to announce the implementation of the Consultant Mentor-Protégé program. The Mentor-Protégé program is an endeavor to assist in sustaining and enhancing the capacity of small business consultants to successfully compete for new vendor consultant procurement opportunities. The Protégé must be an MDOT-certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) or Small Business Enterprise (as defined in applicable federal law) and must be financially prequalified by MDOT.

The Mentor must be prequalified through MDOT in the classifications of work that the Protégé anticipates performing. The Mentor-Protégé relationship must be described in the "Understanding of Service" portion of the consultant's proposal response. The points awarded for the Mentor-Protégé relationship description will not exceed 20% of the total number of points available for the Understanding of Service. A Mentor-Protégé relationship is mandatory for those projects designated for the Mentor-Protégé program. A pilot Mentor-Protégé project has been advertised under the "Mentor Protégé Program" heading of the MDOT Request for Proposal website. Note that the requirements pertaining to submission of the Protégé Application differ for this pilot project from the requirements as documented in the Consultant Mentor-Protegee Program Procedures. Mentors should utilize the following websites to identify potential Protégé candidates for the advertised project:

- <u>Certified Small Businesses</u>: <u>www.michigan.gov/mdotsbp</u> (see "SBP Certification Directory" located on the right hand side under "Forms and Directories")
- <u>Certified Disadvantaged Businesses</u>: <u>www.michigan.gov/mucp</u> (see "Download the complete Michigan DBE Directory" toward the bottom of the page)

The Program requires that Protégés must submit a MDOT <u>Mentor Protégé Application</u> for approval prior to teaming or inclusion on any Mentor-Protégé proposal. Please see complete MDOT <u>Consultant Mentor-Protégé Program Procedures</u> to obtain a full understanding of the program and its requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Thompson, Office of Business Development, at (517) 373-2377 or thompsonl@michigan.gov.